**Statement of Philosophy**

The Advanced Placement Program provides a wonderful opportunity for high school art students to receive credit for a college-level course. AP Programs are taught in almost all subject areas at Central Gwinnett High School. The instruction of the AP Art Program puts art at the same high college preparatory level as other classes.

Students who choose to take the AP Studio Art course will be required to commit time and energy. The student must be willing to go beyond the doing of assignments and homework assigned by the teacher in the lower level art courses. The AP student should be able to bring ideas and skills that can be developed throughout the lab experience. An aggressive willingness to work will be expected from each AP student. Students will also be expected to work intensively and even at times, independently.

The teacher of the AP Studio is committed to expand and stretch the visual thinking of upper-level students. Together, the AP student and teacher can challenge themselves to produce quality art and a valuable portfolio. New ideas and problems will be given to guide the student to develop a personal style of work.

**Outline of year-long course in AP Studio Art**

Advanced Placement Studio Art allows highly motivated students to do college-level work while still in high school. AP Studio Art credit is based on a portfolio of work submitted for evaluation usually the first Friday in May. The program demands more time and commitment than regular high school courses and is therefore intended for the student who has a serious interest in art. Students have the option of submitting a Drawing, 2D Design or 3D Design portfolio. All portfolios require a minimum of 24 works.

The course that you are taking is AP Drawing which requires you to complete 24 works for the portfolio. Breadth (12 works) and Concentration (12 works). After the art work is completed the work will be digitally photographed and uploaded to the AP website in the spring. You will select five pieces from the 24 that will be shipped to the college board to be evaluated as well for the Quality section. The five will be returned in July.

[CLICK HERE for a helpful link (http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/members/exam/exam\_information/2182.html)](http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/members/exam/exam_information/2182.html)

Timetable

**Summer:** You will begin your Breadth Section of the AP Drawing portfolio.

Complete summer list of assignments \* SEE NEXT PAGE . Visit museums and galleries. Try to take advantage of any workshops or classes that may be offered.

**Fall Semester**:

Bring in your best artwork to be evaluated. You may already have some work which can be used in your portfolio. Emphasis will be placed on drawing. In November you will begin your concentration. More of this work will be done independently.

**Spring Semester**:

You will finish your concentration pieces. Decide which original pieces will be included in the Quality Section of your portfolio. Fill in gaps, replace weak work, mat your five works that are a part of the Quality section, write your essays, and make sure that all photography is finished and sized properly when uploading to your AP account. The counselor will give you deadlines for submitting your College Board fees and the exam date.

**AP STUDIO- DRAWING PORTFOLIO**

**Summer Assignments**

You will be expected to complete at least 4 of the 6 assignments during the summer. Please bring them back to school in August and be prepared to critique and discuss your work. I will be available to discuss any questions that you have about assignments from 6:45-7:00 am on most weekday mornings in room 701. Do your best. Do not bring in hastily prepared work that looks like you spent little time or effort on it. AP Art students are expected to perform at a first-year college level. You might visit the art room or the counseling office to look at college catalogues and see examples of freshmen level work.

This is a list of materials that you might need in order to complete the summer assignments. You may use your own things if you like, but the art department will provide any supplies you may need. Check the list carefully and come visit the art room to select and pick up supplies.

Drawing paper, charcoal paper, watercolor paper, construction paper, poster board

Sketchbook (9 x 12 size, spiral bound, 60 lb paper)

Acrylic or tempera paint

Watercolor set and brush

Charcoal

Glue sticks or Elmer’s Glue

Assorted Pencils

India Ink

Ruler

X acto knife

Craypas (oil pastels)

Pastels

**DRAWING QUALITIES**

**VALUE SHADING**- blend the shadows and highlights in a convincingly realistic manner.

**PERSPECTIVE-** use one point and two point perspective. You will need to become familiar with this knowledge this year. If you need to, look online or check out a book in the library on perspective.

**POINT OF VIEW**- this can be physically or intellectually. Create interest by drawing from a different angle (bird’s eye view) or start developing your own point of view on different ideas.

**LINE SENSITIVITY**- use line in an expressive manner, vary the thickness and type of line or tool to describe the object or feeling. Use internal lines or “lost and found” lines on figures instead of outlining.

**CONTRAST**- experiment with a variety of textures, lines, values, colors, patterns, etc.

(continued on next page)

**DRAWING ASSIGNMENTS:**

Use a variety of media and papers with the drawing assignments. Change the format of the paper (square, rectangular, circle, horizontal, vertical, very fat or very slender). Take chances and risks- the worst thing that can happen is that you throw it away! Fill the page and work on composition.

ALL OF YOUR DRAWINGS MUST BE DONE FROM OBSERVATION. DO NOT USE PHOTOS OR ANY OTHER SOURSE FOR YOUR DRAWINDS. YOU CAN OF COURSE LOOK AT THE WORK OF OTHER ARTISTS FOR IDEAS OR PLACEMENT, SURFACE TREATMENT AND PENCIL MARKS.

1. Create a piece using reflective objects. Focus on composition and pay close attention to the distortion that may occur (examples: draw your reflection as it appears in a door knob, the objects you see reflected in a lamp, hubcap, rear view mirror, BE CREATIVE!).
2. Draw the inside of your closet, under your bed or your garbage. Do thumbnails first to make sure your composition is wonderful!
3. Do several thumbnails of a blown-up detail of an object found in nature. Pick your favorite thumbnail. Copy this image several times-in many different sizes (ie. 50%, 200%, 80%). Cut up the copies and collage them together (they may overlap and you may leave blank space between them) to create a new composition. Re-draw this new composition to create the finished piece.
4. Do a drawing of “things that hold other things.”
5. Gesture Drawings- people in motion, in groups, doing sports, dancing, driving, sleeping, eating, feeding the dog, objects, groups of objects (the still lives of your household, room interiors, furniture, closets, shoes…
6. Contour drawings-your hands and fee-objects, plants, animals, fish, all of the above suggestions for gesture, do blind contour, continuous line, spatial organizational studies…

A SECOND SET OF DRAWINGS FOLLOWS:

In addition to the four outlines specific drawings, an additional five drawings will indicate your ability to sustain a program involving a theme or set of ideas. This corresponds with Section II of the AP Portfolio and will be a good beginning on independent work.

First you must develop a theme or idea that will carry through all five of the drawings. The AP Portfolio asks you to develop a theme of 12 related works. These four or five drawings must be developed images. This is the hardest part of the portfolio as most of you will find it easier to work when given a specific assignment. This time you have to write your own.